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## CULTURES In memoriam Anna Rutherford

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## CULTURES In memoriam Anna Rutherford

**Abstract**

Poem

# John Kinsella

## CULTURES

In memoriam Anna Rutherford

The islands are low to the water  
and flat with heat – the birds  
melt interiors, which spread  
to the shore. There, the sands  
shrink once more,  
and contract to belief.

In other parts, the tune  
of robins and finches  
is small, and their red  
tight as anxiety; inside  
they outfly larger birds.

The texture of a feather  
forms in language,  
to the bird our first movements  
vary, and expression  
can be anywhere.

Rebellious, migratory  
flights don't end up where  
they're supposed to, and water  
runs through the vista.  
Sometimes we coincide,  
now more than ever.